

Minutes
Select Board Meeting
Town of Coventry
Monday August 03, 2026

This meeting was recorded on Zoom and then posted to YouTube. The link to the Town's YouTube channel is at www.coventryvt.org.

Board Members Present

Kerry Keement
Dan Webster
Matt Maxwell

Town Officials Present

Ed Fournier, Town Administrator
Deb Tanguay, Town Clerk
Daniel Rondeau, Cemetery Commission
Jeff Wilson, Emergency Management Director
Isreal Sanville, Constable

Public Present

Chris Roy, Newport Daily Express, Town Resident
Richard Wells, Orleans County Sheriff's Department
Sue Bernier, Town Resident
Mike Bernier, Town Resident

1. Order

Ed Fournier called the meeting to order at 4:59 p.m. Persons present introduced themselves.

2. Changes or Additions to the Agenda

None.

3. Allow for public comment

None.

4. Pine Hill Speeding – Updates

Town Residents Sue and Mike Bernier spoke about their concerns with speeding on Pine Hill. Sue also noted that there have been some vehicles pulled over and that they were happy with this. Mike asked about increased presence from the Sheriff's Department. Richard Wells explained that the Department has Pine Hill on their radar, but they must also devote time to all of the roads in town based on their contracted amount of time. He also noted that Sue added a good suggestion for a spot to sit for the Department on Pine Hill and that this is a work in progress. Richard also explained that the Department can work on putting out a speed cart and gathering data for the town. Kerry Keement discussed the effects of digital signs and speed bumps. Richard added information about signs and speed bumps. Dan Webster said the speed carts were a good idea and stated that continued presence from the Sheriff's Department will help with the speeding concerns.

5. Fire Marshall Updates

Ed Fournier updated the Board about a visit from the State Fire Marshall to

the Community Center. He explained that overall, the building was good for inspection. However, he explained that some plumbing in the boiler room needed to be closed in and that the Marshall recommended updating some alarms. Jeff Wilson gave an overview of emergency shelter information. He explained that while meeting with the Marshall and Ed, it was found that the planned new garage would need extra design and that the interference of Road Crew responsibilities with emergency shelter events would be immense if the building was to be designated as a shelter. Jeff suggested that the town remain having the Community Center as the main shelter location while continuing to have the local School as a backup. The Board decided to stay with the current shelter designations.

6. Emergency Management Director

Jeff updated the Board with recent purchases for emergency preparation. Jeff also discussed other emergency related items. Jeff also discussed having an Economic Development Representative for the town. Dan Rondeau talked about representatives from the Planning Commission and gave information about the process. Jeff thought that it would be good for Town Officials to have a table at the Fall Festival to talk to residents. The Board thought that this was a good idea.

7. Justices of the Peace – Listing on November General Election Ballot

Deb Tanguay explained that this is a state requirement and that it requires approval from the Select Board. Matt Maxwell made a motion to have Kerry Keement, Sherry Bradley, Tracy Quirion, Richard Lussier, Edward Lovejoy, and Donald Hunt appear on the ballot for the Town of Coventry. Dan W. made the second and the vote was unanimous.

8. Liquor License – Request to Cater Permit

Deb said that this is for the Coventry Fall Festival. Matt made a motion to approve the license. Dan W. made the second and the vote was unanimous.

9. Town Report – Social Service Appropriations

Ed asked the board if they would like to make any changes to requirements for appropriation requests in the town report. Matt stated that if the requesters are increasing the amount, then ask them to state why and ask each requester to have the page in color for the report.

10. Municipal Energy Resilience Program – Planning

Ed discussed the Community Center stove and the current location of propane tank is in relation to MERP planning. The Board decided to keep the stove tank in place and would like to get information on electric stoves and a suppression system. Dan R. answered questions and added information about stoves and suppression. Ed discussed whether the propane tank should be buried or not. The Board decided to keep the tank above ground. Ed asked the Board about the process of removing the existing oil tanks for the MERP project. The Board decided to have the tanks professionally removed and have the oil donated to those in need. Ed explained that the tanks will be disposed of in the proper manner.

11. Oil Supply – Pre-Buy Commercial Contract

Ed presented the Board with pre-buy oil information for town buildings. The Board asked for more information before moving forward with this.

12. Municipal Mitigation Grants in Aid FY27

Ed presented the Board with the Grants in Aid for Fiscal Year 2027. Matt made the motion for Ed to sign the grant. Dan W. made the second and the vote was unanimous.

13. Other Business

Kerry discussed an issue with a driveway and a vehicle parked part way on the road. Kerry also discussed town posting places.

Dan W. discussed the Fall Festival run that he organizes.

Ed discussed the theme and dedication for the town report.

14. Approval of Minutes – 07/20/2026

Matt made a motion to approve the minutes of 07/20/2026. Kerry made the second and the vote was unanimous.

15. Warrants

Dan made a motion to approve the warrants. Matt made the second and the vote was unanimous.

16. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 6:03 p.m.